

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
29 September 2005 (29.09.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/089067 A2

- (51) International Patent Classification: Not classified
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/IL2005/000335
- (22) International Filing Date: 24 March 2005 (24.03.2005)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 60/555,667 24 March 2004 (24.03.2004) US
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- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

WO 2005/089067 A2

(54) Title: SCREENING OF ANTI-VIRAL DRUGS AND PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITIONS CONTAINING THIAZOLIDINONE DERIVATIVES

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method of screening for small organic molecules that directly inhibit the interaction of glycosaminoglycans (GAGs) with GAG-binding viral proteins (GBVPs), which comprises contacting a GAG with an GBVP in the presence of at least one candidate compound; and measuring the amount of the GAG bound to the GBVP or the amount of the GBVP bound to the GAG, wherein a significant decrease in GAG-GBVP binding as compared to GAG-GBVP binding in the absence of the candidate compound, identifies said compound as inhibitor of the GAG-GBVP interaction. The invention further provides pharmaceutical compositions comprising certain 2-thioxo-thiazolidinone derivatives, particularly useful against virus infections.